

From December 2008 to January 2009, Congressman Kirk became the first Member of Congress to deploy to an imminent danger area since 1942 when he served as special advisor for counternarcotics to the Deputy Commander of the International Security Assistance Force Regional Command-South in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

To view Congressman Kirk discussing his time in Afganistan:

- [Congressman/Commander Kirk returns from deployment to Afghanistan](#)
- [Congressman Kirk speaks about his deployment to Afghanistan](#)
- [Kirk: My Deployment to Afghanistan](#)

For several years, Congressman Kirk has led efforts to boost resources to counternarcotics operations in southern Afghanistan – especially in Helmand Province, home to half of the world's heroin supply. Kirk-sponsored legislation to integrate the Drug Enforcement Administration into the intelligence community and provide resources to the State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement are now in law.

After authoring legislation to increase the reward for Osama bin Laden and establish Pashto-language radio service along the Afghan-Pakistan border, Congressman Kirk continues efforts to enhance the State Department's terrorist rewards programs, increase development work in the FATA region of Pakistan and boost support to local Afghan development projects

like the National Solidarity Program.

To view the Congressman discussing this issue:

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- [Heroin, the Taliban, and the War on Terrorism](#)
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